

## News Release

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## ICE RECRUITING NEW AGENTS IN LOS ANGELES

LOS ANGELES – Due to the overwhelming response to its recruiting drive earlier this summer, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) announced today that the agency will host a second recruiting seminar here early next month for those interested in becoming special agents for ICE, the Department of Homeland Security's largest investigative arm.

The publicity surrounding the first recruiting seminar June 2 generated hundreds of responses. To accommodate the demand, ICE has decided to schedule a second seminar September 8 in downtown Los Angeles. Career seekers should call ICE's local recruitment line - (562) 624-3800, extension 3765 - to reserve a seat. Space is limited, so advanced registration is required.

The Los Angeles recruiting seminars are part of a nationwide drive by ICE to recruit and hire entry-level special agents. New hires will be brought on board at the GS-5 or GS-7 level. The starting salary includes an additional 25 percent annually in Law Enforcement Availability Pay (LEAP). For those hired as GS-5s in the Los Angeles area, that amounts to a salary of more than \$37,000 a year, together with more than \$9,000 a year in LEAP. For an entry level GS-7 in Los Angeles, the starting pay exceeds \$42,000 a year, with an additional \$10,500 in LEAP. Agents also receive generous benefits, including health and life insurance, a law enforcement retirement plan, and holiday and sick leave.

ICE agents are involved in a wide variety of domestic and international enforcement activities targeting the illegal movement of people and goods that violate immigration and custom laws and threaten national security. ICE agents work cases related to human smuggling, money laundering, narcotics and weapons trafficking, financial crimes, commercial fraud, and violations relating to intellectual property rights. The agency maintains field offices across the country and around the globe.

To qualify for a GS-5 position, applicants must have a bachelor's degree or three years of law enforcement experience, or a combination of the two. The GS-7 level requires either one full year of graduate level education, or at least one year of specialized law enforcement experience. In addition, applicants must be under 37 years of age and pass a background investigation, medical exam, and drug test. The only way to apply is through an ICE Office of Investigations recruiter.

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